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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/604,390	07/17/2003	Jen-Shou Tseng	9610-US-PA	1389
31561	7590	05/02/2006	EXAMINER	
JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE			CHAN, KO HUNG	
7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100			ART UNIT	
ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2			PAPER NUMBER	
TAIPEI, 100			3632	
TAIWAN			DATE MAILED: 05/02/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/604,390	Applicant(s) TSENG ET AL.	
	Examiner Korie H. Chan	Art Unit 3632	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4,5,7,8,16,17,19 and 20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,6,9-15,18,21-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 16, 17, 19, 20 have been withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on September 19, 2005.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 2, 13, and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kakizaki et al (US patent no. 5,633,461). Kakizaki discloses a case body (18) for a platform (16) comprising: a housing (18) having an opening on which the platform is placed, and one or more support elements (17) mounted on interior walls of the housing, at least one of the support elements comprising: a supporting surface (19, figure 6, 7) on a top of each support element configured to contact the platform; and an absorbing body (17a or 17d) located beneath the supporting surface configured to share a stress received by the supporting surface in response to an external force; wherein the support element is located along a periphery of the platform.

Claims 1, 2, 11-14, 23, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Prior Art (as shown in applicant's figures 1A-1B). Prior Art of figures 1A-1B discloses a case body (102) for a platform (110) of glass or acrylic resin as disclosed in applicant's specification comprising: a housing (102) having an opening on which the platform is placed, and one or more support elements (112) mounted on interior walls of

Art Unit: 3632

the housing, at least one of the support elements comprising: a supporting surface (flat horizontal ledge of 112) on a top of each support element configured to contact the platform; and an absorbing body (the lower vertical section of 112 inherently shares the stress or weight received by the supporting surface or the flat horizontal ledge of 112 since it is supporting the ledge) located beneath the supporting surface configured to share a stress received by the supporting surface in response to an external force; wherein the support element is located along a periphery of the platform.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 3, 6, 9, 10, 15, 18, 21, and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art (as shown in applicant's figures 1A-1B) in view of Rohee (US patent no. 5,224,781). Prior Art of figures 1A-1B disclosed all the claimed features of applicant's invention except for the absorbing body is of "5" shaped. Rohee demonstrates it is old and well-known to make an absorbing body of a "5" shaped. To provide an absorbing body of "5" shaped would have been a matter of obvious design choice and is demonstrated by Rohee.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed February 23, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's recitation to a scanner platform throughout the claims is a recitation of intended use. A recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to

Art Unit: 3632

patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. It is examiner's assertion that Kakizaki's absorber which supports a platform of the circuit board type is also capable of supporting a platform of the scanner.

In regards to applicant's argument that examiner has not point to a disclosure in Kakazaki that the supporting surface is capable of contacting a platform of the scanner, it has been held that the recitation that an element is "capable of" performing a function is not a positive limitation but only requires the ability to so perform. It does not constitute a limitation in any patentable sense. *In re Hutchison*, 69 USPQ 138. One of ordinary skilled in the art would have understood that Kakazaki's shock absorber has the ability to support a platform such as a scanner platform. Such does not necessarily have to be specifically disclosed in Kakazaki. The ability to perform would have been understood by one of ordinary skill in the art.

Regarding the use of Admitted Prior Art disclosed in applicant's specification, applicant argues that the specification discloses that "the block members 112 are not sufficient to effectively absorb external shocks. Therefore when an external force is applied on the platform 110, the block member 112 can not absorb the shock". Examiner would also like to point out after the above citation, applicant discloses that "As a result, the platform 110 will likely be damaged due to stress concentration in the block members 112". This clearly indicates that the stress is being shared by the block members 112.

Indeed, applicant independent claims 1 and 13 recites that "the absorbing body located beneath the supporting surface capable of sharing an external stress received by the supporting surface in response to an external force". Clearly the supports or block members 112 that is in direct contact beneath the scanner platform will share any stress on the scanner platform thereabove. Consequently, the rejection stands.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Korie H. Chan whose telephone number is 571-272-6816. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday.

Art Unit: 3632

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski can be reached on 571-272-6788. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Korie H. Chan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3632

khc
April 26, 2006